

Spark Gap

Vol. 31, Issue 2, February 2014 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities for thirty-one years*

On Our MARC...

I would like to congratulate the 8 who entered the world of Amateur Radio. These students participated in the MARC one day Technician class on February 8th. Thanks to all the instructors who gave up their time and talents to teach these students. Special thanks to Gary Davis, KD9SB, for coming in and helping out. This year we got away from the ARRL teaching guide and taught from the No-Nonsense, Technician Class License Study Guide.

At the February meeting, we will have our "Helping Hams" session to assist our newly-licensed Hams to get started in the hobby. Please bring your handhelds, mobiles and other equipment for Show and Tell.

Just a reminder, this year's Storm Spotter Training class will be Mar 4th at the EOC in Franklin from 7 pm to 9pm. If you are interested in attending, please call Stephanie at 317-736-9064 to reserve your spot.

See you Saturday and the coffee will be on.

Jacki-KI6QOG

President

A FRIENDLY REMINDER

Please renew your membership to M.A.R.C. for 2014

See Linda KC9GCH at the next club meeting and she will be glad to help you renew your membership.

Dues are still, \$ 18.00 for the year.

Your membership is very important to us.

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PRODUCTS VIA AMATEUR "HAM" RADIO

Amateur radio, commonly referred to as "Ham" radio, is popular among the yachting and small boat community as a means of providing communications and receiving weather information. Amateur radio can be operated nearly worldwide, however, certain restrictions may exist and advanced permits may be required when operating within the territorial limits of another country. Within the U.S., amateur radio is regulated by the FCC. Information on licensing and all other aspects of amateur radio may be obtained by contacting the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) at 860-594-0200.

NEWS FLASH - The FCC has announced that beginning April 15, 2000 the requirement for proficiency of the morse code at 13 or 20 words-per-minute will no longer be required to obtain amateur radio operating privileges in the HF shortwave bands. [Click here for further details.](#)

Among the many aspects of amateur radio, "Hams" operate several maritime "nets" where information of common interest to mariners, such as weather, is exchanged. These nets are extremely popular in areas of the world which have a large yachting population and where weather is dynamic, such as in the Caribbean. Weather reports are typically exchanged in voice via single sideband although the popularity of digital modes such as SITOR/AMTOR, radioteletype (RTTY), PACTOR I, PACTOR II, PACTOR III, PSK31, and e-mail exchanges, such as the WinLink 2000 Global Radio Network (includes an option to download more than 450 graphic and text-based worldwide weather products), are growing rapidly. Information on amateur radio maritime nets may be found by contacting the ARRL or using an Internet search engine to search on such topics as "ham radio nets", or "maritime amateur radio". [Click here to visit a webpage listing many of these nets.](#)

[Visit The British Columbia Boaters Net](#)

[Visit The Caribbean Maritime Mobile Net](#)

[Visit The Hurricane Watch Net](#)

[Visit The Italian Amateur Radio Maritime Service Net](#)

[Visit The Maritime Mobile Service Network](#)

[Visit The Manana Net](#)

[Visit The Northwest Boaters Net](#)

[Visit The Pacific Seafarer's Net](#)

[Visit The Seafarer's Net](#)

[Visit The U.S. Power Squadrons Net](#)

[Visit The Waterway Net](#)

Note to Net Operators - It would be helpful for nets to each establish a webpage so that we might be able to inform mariners of your activities.

MAROB

Many radio amateurs participate in the MAROB Program. The MAROB Program is an experimental voluntary marine observation program of the National Weather Service in the early stages of development.

SKYWARN™

Many radio amateurs participate in the SKYWARN Program. SKYWARN is a nationwide network of volunteer weather spotters who report to and are trained by the National Weather Service. These spotters report many forms of significant or severe weather such as Severe Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Hail, Heavy Snow, or Flooding. Contact your local National Weather Service Forecast Office to learn about SKYWARN activities in your area.

National Weather Service, ARRL Team Up for On-Air Eventnew

-- The National Weather Service and ARRL will cosponsor an on-the-air event to recognize the contribution of SKYWARN volunteers. The NWS/ARRL SKYWARN Recognition Day will be December 7, 2013, from 0000z to 2400z. See the NWS/ARRL SKYWARN Recognition Day Web page.

APRSWXNET/Citizen Weather Observer Program (CWOP)

Originally, APRSWXNET was developed as a way for amateur radio operators to transmit weather data to the NOAA's Forecast Systems Laboratory (FSL) in Boulder, Colorado for research. The success of this effort and the amount of data routinely collected have led to use by other research labs and by operational parts of NOAA including the National Weather Service. The system has also been expanded to allow collection of observations via the Internet, thereby expanding the program to persons not holding an amateur radio license. The program offers the potential of greatly improving the accuracy of marine forecasts and timeliness of warnings. An example would be a network of volunteer automated weather stations installed at marinas and yacht clubs along the coast. For further information, visit the CWOP Webpage

Nearby CWOP weather data may be retrieved via the Internet as in the following examples where 20902 is the zip code, or the position is 39.1N, 77.1W, or via NOAA's Forecast Systems Laboratory (FSL) Display of Surface Data.

<http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/wxnear.cgi?zip=20902>

<http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/wxnear.cgi?lat=39.1&lon=-77.1>

..... National Weather Service/NOAA

NWS Storm Spotter Training

March 4, 2014, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Johnson County EOC, Franklin, IN 46131

Please call Stephanie Sichting, Johnson Co. EMA to register for the class.

Office Phone#: (317) 736-2280

ARRL National Centennial Convention 2014

Thursday, July 17, 2014 - Saturday, July 19, 2014

Connecticut Convention Center
100 Columbus Boulevard
Hartford, Connecticut 06103

ARRL members will gather at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, ARRL's birthplace, to celebrate ARRL's first 100 years. "Advancing the Art and Science of Radio." Founded in 1914, ARRL (American Radio Relay League) is the National Association for Amateur Radio in the US and the largest organization of radio amateurs, or "hams," in the world.

Thursday, July 17, 2014

- All-Day Training Tracks: public service, technology, radiosport, and more!
- Lunch with special guest speaker
- International Guests "Welcome" Reception
- Short bus trip to tour ARRL headquarters and W1AW
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Friday & Saturday, July 18-19, 2014

- Exhibit Hall featuring ARRL program representatives, Amateur Radio manufacturers, equipment sellers, and an indoor flea market
- Dozens of forums and presentations
- Friday night ARRL Centennial Banquet with special keynote speaker
- ARRL Wouff Hong Ceremony, Friday 11:30 PM
- Short bus trip to tour ARRL headquarters and W1AW
- Saturday morning Presidents Breakfast
- Closing ceremony Saturday evening

Sunday, July 20, 2014

- No Convention Center activities
- Short bus trip to tour ARRL headquarters and W1AW

While attending the convention, enjoy a tour of ARRL Headquarters and W1AW, the Hiram P. Maxim Memorial Station in Newington, Connecticut—just outside of Hartford.

Local Nets FYI

INARES HF Voice Net

Repeats every week every Sunday until Sun Dec 28th 2014 .

Sunday 5:00pm IN-ARRL 80m SSB | 3.900 MHz IN Statewide

Tune in to the IN ARES HF voice net at 3.900 MHz LSB at 5:00 PM Eastern Time every Sunday.

Johnson County ARES Net

Repeats every week until Sun Dec 28th 2014 .

Sunday 7:00pm Mid States ARC | 146.835 MHz Johnson

Hamilton County ARES Net

Repeats every week every Sunday until Sunday Dec 28th 2014 .

Sunday 8:00pm Hamilton Co ARES 2m | 145.170 MHz Hamilton

\The Hamilton County ARES Net is every Sunday at 2000 hours on the 145.170 (PL77) repeater which is linked to the 443.550 (PL77) repeater.

IN-ARRL CW Traffic Net QIN (evening)

Repeats every day until Wednesday Dec 31 2014 .

Sunday 8:00pm IN-ARRL CW | 3.535 MHz IN Statewide

For more information, go to: <http://indianacw.net>

IN-ARRL CW Traffic Net QIN (morning)

Repeats every day until Wednesday Dec 31 2014 .

Monday 9:30am IN-ARRL CW | 3.535 MHz IN Statewide

For more information, go to: <http://indianacw.net>

Shelby County ARES Net

Repeats every week until Monday Dec 29 2014 .

Monday 7:30pm Blue River ARC 2m | 145.480 MHz Shelby

Hendricks County ARES Net

Repeats every week every Tuesday until Wednesday Dec 24 2014 .

Tuesday 7:30pm Hendricks Co ARS | 147.015 MHz Hendricks

Check-ins, announcements

Hancock County ARES Net

Repeats every week every Tuesday until Wednesday Dec 24 2014 .

Tuesday 7:30pm Hancock ARC primary 2m | 145.330 MHz Hancock

Indianapolis 220 net

Repeats every week every Tuesday until Wednesday Dec 24 2014 .

Tuesday 8:00pm K9XV | 224.800 MHz Marion

Dust off your 220 rig and join Steve Curtis ND9C on 224.800 MHz (88.5 Hz PL tone) every Tuesday evening at 8:00pm. The 224.800 repeater is usually linked to the 147.210 repeater for this net, so even if you don't have a 220 radio, you can join in.

Newsline

Repeats every week until Wednesday Dec 24 2014 .

Wednesday 7:00pm Indianapolis Repeater Assoc 2m | 146.700 MHz Marion

[link:Amateur Radio Newsline] news broadcast.

Marion County ARES and Information Net

Repeats every week until Wednesday Dec 24 2014 .

Wednesday 7:30pm Indianapolis Repeater Assoc 2m | 146.700 MHz Marion

Morgan County ARES

Repeats every week until Wed Dec 24 2014 .

Wednesday 8:00pm Morgan RA 2m | 147.060 MHz Morgan

INARES HF Digital Net

Repeats every month every Wednesday until Wednesday Dec 24 2014 .

Wednesday 8:30pm IN-ARRL Digital | 3.583 MHz IN Statewide

Mode: OLIVIA 500/8 (mode may change at discretion of net control)

Use of FLDigi / FLMSG programs is expected to fully participate in this net. Operators using other software will not be able to copy and extract messages sent in standard template format using error detection.

Operators proficient with FLDigi and who have robust digital stations on 80m should contact Larry WB9FHP during the net and offer to serve as net control occasionally. This is the Indiana ARES Digital Net and we need to share the load and responsibility for maintaining this net.

Boone County ARES Net

Repeats every week every Thursday until Thursday Dec 225 2014 .

Thursday 8:00pm N9HLL | 147.105 MHz

Boone

Marion County IDHS RACES Net

Repeats every month on the first Sunday until Sunday Dec 07 2014 .

Sunday 7:00pm District 5 VHF | 147.210 MHz

District 5

This RACES Net is open to all licensed amateur radio operators. It is for the testing of equipment and the dissemination of information.

IDHS RACES Monthly Net

Repeats every month on the second Sunday until Sun Dec 07th 2014 except Sunday Jan 04 2015,

Sunday July 06 2014.

Sun 10-13 6:00pm IDHS RACES 80m SSB | 3.920 MHz

IN Statewide

The purpose of the net is to evaluate Indiana amateur radio disaster communications through the RACES program and to pass traffic and information.

All Indiana county EMA Directors or their designated representatives only are asked to check-in to this net.

Birthdays for the month of February:

NC9ULB - Jeff Allen

ND9C - Steve Curtis

N9SIU - Bob LaGrange

KC9ZMU - Fred Robertson

K9THR - Ron Schuetz

2014 HAMFESTS

- Feb 22 Brownsburg Hamfest, American Legion Post 331, Brownsburg IN, 6AM-2:30PM, <http://www.hcars.org/hamfest>
- Feb 22 Cabin Fever Hamfest, LaPorte Civic Auditorium, LaPorte IN, 7 AM till 1 PM CST, <http://lpcarc.org/hamfest/index.html>
- March 8 Terre Haute Hamfest, Indiana State University Dede Activity Center, Terre Haute IN, 9 AM till 2 PM, <http://w9uuu.org/>
- March 29 Columbus Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Community Building in Columbus, Indiana, 8 AM till Noon, <http://www.carcnet.org/>
- April 12 North Central Indiana Hamfest , Miami County 4-H Fairground, Miami County Road 200 North & 1029W, Peru IN <http://www.nci-hamfest.net/>
- July 12 Indianapolis Hamfest, MARION COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS, <http://www.indyhamfest.com>
- Sept. 20 Greenfield Hamfest , First Church of God 700 N. Broadway, Greenfield, 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM, contact wb9cne@arrl.net, www.w9atg.org
- Nov. 15-16 Indiana State Convention, Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, <http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>

Dayton Hamvention® 2014

Makers... The Future of Ham Radio

May 16-18 2014



MID-STATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the THIRD SATURDAY of each month in the basement of the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, Indiana 46131.

See our website, www.midstatehams.org, for maps on how to get to our meeting.

Everyone is welcome; you do not have to be a HAM to attend our meetings or a member of the club.

WA9RDF
Repeater
146.835/
146.235 MHz
151.4 Hz PL Tone

Club Officers:
President: Jacki Frederick – KI6QOG
Vice President: Dave Daily – KB9LOT
Secretary: Rhonda Curtis– WS9H
Treasurer: Linda Harshbarger – KC9GCH
Repeater Trustee: Steve Brown – N9LC

Weekly Net: Sunday evening 7:00 PM ARES/RACES members and ALL RADIO AMATEURS

The Official Newsletter of the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

*P.O. Box 836
Franklin, Indiana
46131*

Editor: Robert LaGrange N9SIU

Please send your articles to my email n9siu@yahoo.com no later than the 3rd of the month

